(e) by when the Committee set up or the purpose is likely to submit its report to Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH SHARA): (a) and (b) A Committee consisting of two former Advisors of the Ministry of Petroleum and Natural, Gas and two officials from Gas Authority of India Ltd. and Engineers India Ltd. was constituted to suggest, among other things, the general principles for projecting shrinkage on account of extraction of LPG and C2|C3 from natural gas and to examine the pojections made by Oil and Natural Gas Corporation Ltd. Oil India Ltd. and Gas Authority of India Ltd. in this regard.

(c) and (d) Shrinkage occurs in the normal course due to the extraction of LPG and C2|C3 from natural gas.

(e) The Committee has submitted its Report.

**Proposals by Central region of ONGC for discovery of oil**

256. SHRI MD. SALIM: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that ONGC has discovered oil in two wells viz. Ichapur-1 (oligocene sands) and 'Golf Green-1' (Eocene Limestone) in West Bengal;

(b) whether it is also a fact that 9 new locations proposed by the Central Region of ONGC to follow up the discoveries of Golf Green and Ichapur have been turned down by the management of ONGC; and

(c) if so, what are the reasons therefor;

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH SHARA): (a) The oil shows in these places are insignificant and non-commercial in nature.

(b) and (c) Of the 9 locations proposed, one location was for Golf Green area and 4 were for Shantipur-Badculla area which is closer to Ichapur. Of these five, one location (Shantipur-1) is already upgraded and scheduled for drilling and another 'A' Category location is already available in Badculla area. Golf Green area is being covered by 3-D seismic surveys. Future programme will be decided only after getting the results of the surveys. The remaining 4 locations were for other areas which were not agreed to because of the discouraging exploratory results in those areas or negative techno-economic or or want of additional information.

Oil Exploration by ONGC at Chandkuri and Ichapur inWest Bengal.

257. SHRI DIPANKAR MUKHERJEE:

SHRIMATI CHANDRAKALA PANDEY:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that ONGC has discovered an oil bearing core from the Palcocene reservoir (with extractable oil) of Chandkuri 1 in Contai area of West Bengal;

(b) whether it is also fact that the ONGC management has intentionally spiked the poposal of the erstwhile Chairman P. K. Chandra to drill a subsequent well Chandkuri 2 wnere comercial oil pool is expected;

(c) whether it is also a fact that ONGC management is offering the oil bearing area of Ichapur and Chandkuri to foreign companies for oil exploration; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and reason therefor?